Tele-Density

1723. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the tele-density achieved during the last 5 years, year-wise, urban and rural area-wise;

(b) the contribution of different companies, year-wise and urban-rural areas break up-wise, during each year; and

(c) whether the present pattern of enhancing tele-density is throwing up any concern in terms of imbalances of urban-rural divide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) the tele-density achieved during last five years, urban and rural area wise are as follows:

Years	Rural	Urban
1998-99	0.51	6.92
1999-00	0.68	8.33
2000-01	0.93	10.16
2001-02	1.21	12.20
2002-03	1.49	14.32

(b) The contribution of different companies year-wise urban and rural area wise during each year are given in the Statement (*see* below). For providing cellular Mobile Telephone Service, the country has been divided into 4 Metro city service areas and 19 Telecom Circle service areas. A subscriber of CMTS (Cellular Mobile Telephone Service) belong to the whole of the service areas and not to a particular city-town/ villages in service areas. As such the service areas cannot be categorized into rural and urban areas.

(c) The present pattern of increase in tele-density is tilted more towards urban areas as the telecom services in rural areas have been unattractive due to low revenue and high cost per telephone line. Further the growth of telephones in an areas depends on demand which in turn depends on economy, literacy rate, commercial activities and per capita income. Hence the growth in rural areas suffers on account of these factors. However with a view to increase tele-density in rural sector, actions have already been taken for the establishment of special fund *viz.* USO fund.

Statement

Contributionof Telephone connections by different companies, year wise and Rural/urban area wise for last five years

Sl. No.	Name of Companies	1998-99			1999-2000			2000-01			2001-02			2002-03		
		Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	BSNL	2883015	661802	3544817	3350981	1168967	4539948	3783296	1848866	5632162	2842941	2464041	5306982	2514558	2255742	4770300
2.	MTNL	249206		249206	395711		395711	276295		276295	325976		325976	197685		197685
3.	Bharti	48099		48099	194181		194181	352271		352271	846384		846384	1795259		1795259
4.	Reliance	13227		13227	39418		39418	117954		117954	193196		193196	1122073		1122073
5.	Shyam Telelink Ltd.	0		0	0		0	9119		9119	47201		47201	25945		25945
6.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	5717		5717	17196		17196	46686		46686	163815		163815	132799		132799
7.	HFCL Infotel Ltd.	0		0	0		0	13326		13326	95128		95128	3193		3193
8.	Tata Teleservice Ltd. (MAH)	0		0	26713		26713	31847		31847	138061		138061	36776		36776
9.	Hutchison	18450		18450	182164		182164	264154		264154	558600		558600	895600		895585
10.	Idea	69779		69779	22545		22545	184596		184596	465070		465070	471765		471765
11.	BPL	67175		67175	120925		120925	303273		303273	253891		253891	232713		232713
12.	RPG	-7374		-7374	10087		10087	40118		40118	51002		51002	59067		59067
13.	SPICE	16490		16490	89011		89011	96198		96198	203296		203296	166196		166196
14.	Aircell Ltd.	0		0	40252		40252	79737		79737	46174		46174	63616		63616
15.	Escotel	19347		19346	70697		70697	171725		171725	193837		193837	85913		85913
16.	ADIL	2455		2455	5811		5811	48890		48890	25763		25763	82728		82728
17.	Hexacom	2272		2272	9241		9241	27522		27522	38881		38881	45751		45751
18.	Koshika	70741		70741	-17480		-17480	11507		11507	-40644		-40644	-58974		-58974
	TOTAL	3458599	661802	4120400	4557453	1188967	5746420	5858515	1848866	7707380	6448572	2464041	8912613	7872648	2255742	10128390